

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07
AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00
COME-00 DLOS-06 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01
ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-06 OMB-01 PA-01
PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SAL-01 OIC-02 NSCE-00 SSO-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 /124 R

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APPROVED BY S/AR:AJAMES

S/AR:MR. DARMAN

EUR/SOV:MR. MCCALL

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 067046

FOR AMB. RICHARDSON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: LOS: SOVIETS WISH TO POSTPONE GROUP OF FIVE
MEETING IN LONDON

1. THE BRITISH EMBASSY (GLOVER) INFORMED US MARCH 25 THAT
BRITISH EMB IN MOSCOW HAD BEEN INFORMED BY SOVIET FOREIGN
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MINISTRY THAT SOVIETS WISH TO POSTPONE GROUP OF FIVE
MEETING SCHEDULED FOR EARLY MAY IN LONDON. SOVIET FOREIGN
MINISTRY SOURCE STATED THAT IN VIEW OF SHORTNESS OF
TIME BEFORE THE CONVENING OF LOS CONFERENCE, SOVIET
GOVERNMENT CONSIDERED IT INAPPROPRIATE FOR HEADS OF DELE-
GATION TO TAKE TIME FOR MEETING PRIOR TO OPENING OF NEW
YORK SESSION. ACCORDING TO BRITISH, SOVIETS PROPOSED

THAT GROUP OF FIVE MEET DURING OPENING DAYS OF CONFERENCE
IN NEW YORK.

2. THE BRITISH EMB FURTHER STATED THAT THEY HAD NOT
RECEIVED ANY COMMENTARY FROM THE FCO ABOUT SOVIET DECISION ON G-5 MEETING, BUT THOUGHT IT POSSIBLE LONDON
MIGHT HAVE SOMETHING TO OFFER IN NEXT FEW DAYS ABOUT ITS
SIGNIFICANCE IF ANY. BRITISH EMBASSY IS NOT CERTAIN
WHETHER FCO ACCEPTS SOVIET REPLY AS FINAL OR WHETHER
THEY WILL MAKE A FURTHER APPROACH TO SOVIETS. BRITISH

EMBASSY HAS CABLED LONDON FOR GUIDANCE.

3. BRITISH ALSO INFORMED US THAT AMERASINGHE IS NOW IN
MOSCOW FOR A VISIT OF 4-5 DAYS. AMERASINGHE ARRIVED
MOSCOW MARCH 22 AND IS THE GUEST OF THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT. SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS FROM WHOM
BRITISH GOT THIS INFORMATION SAID AMERASINGHE HAD HAD
CONVERSATIONS WITH KOZYREV BUT DID NOT DISCLOSE SUBSTANCE OF CONVERSATION.

4. NEITHER WE NOR DEPT'S SOVIET DESK HAVE ANY BASIS
ON WHICH TO MAKE ANY FIRM CONCLUSIONS ABOUT WHY SOVIETS
HAVE IN SUCCESSION TURNED DOWN VISIT BY YOU TO MOSCOW
IN EARLY APRIL AND PUT OFF G-5 MEETING IN LONDON.
HOWEVER, AMBASSADOR ZULETA WILL BE IN WASHINGTON
MARCH 28 TO GIVE TALK ON LOS AND ALAN JAMES HAS ARRANGED
TO SEE HIM AT THAT TIME. JAMES WILL TRY TO GET ASSESSMENT FROM ZULETA OF SOVIET ATTITUDE ON BASIS OF WHAT-
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EVER REPORTING AMERASINGHE MAY HAVE MADE FROM MOSCOW.
WE WILL ALSO TRY AS APPROPRIATE TO SEE IF WE CAN GET
AN ESTIMATE OF SOVIET LOS ATTITUDES AFTER AMERASINGHE
RETURNS TO NEW YORK.

5. IN VIEW OF POSTPONEMENT OF G-5 MEETING IN LONDON
WE WILL SHORTLY PREPARE AN ALTERNATE TRAVEL SCHEDULE
FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION. TO DO THIS IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE YOUR WISHES ABOUT A
VISIT TO JIDDA AT END OF YOUR PRESENT TRIP.
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